

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

SAM-01 NEA-10 EA-07 IO-10 /088 W

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6733

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION NATO

USUN NEW YORK 1082

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NL, SP

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS FONMIN VAN DER STOEL SPEAKS HIS MIND ON SPAIN

1. SUMMARY: NETHERLANDS FONMIN VAN DER STOEL SEVERELY CASTIGATES FRANCO REGIME AND EXPLAINS REASONS FOR GON INVOLVEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. FONMIN VAN DER STOEL, INTERVIEWED ON NETHERLANDS TV SEPT 28 IN A PROGRAM ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO COVER THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF NETHERLANDS FOREIGN POLICY, DEVOTED HIMSELF ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO SPAIN. WHILE BEING CAREFUL NOT TO CONDEMN THE CONVICTIONS AS SUCH, NOTING THAT THESE AROSE OUT OF FACT OF ATTACKS ON POLICE  
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OFFICERS, HE SOLEMNLY DECLARED HIS -- AND GON'S -- FUNDAMENTAL

OPPOSITION TO THE INJUSTICE AND REPRESSION OF FRANCO'S SPAIN. HE ADDED THAT HIS ABHORRENCE OF DEATH SENTENCES WAS ALSO MOTIVATED BY FACT HE WAS OPPOSED TO DEATH PENALTY. NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR, WHO EARLIER ON INSTRUCTIONS HAD PLEADED FOR LENIENT TREATMENT OF CONVICTED SPANIARDS, HAD BEEN RECALLED, TO GIVE EXPRESSION TO NETHERLANDS FEELINGS.

3. ASKED WHETHER GON WASN'T BEING SELECTIVE IN EXPRESSIONS OF ITS PROTESTS, VAN DER STOEL CITED HIS EFFORTS WITH INDONESIA AND SOUTH KOREA, EXPLAINING THAT HE HAD RAISED HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES WITH THEIR FONMINS IN BILATERALS AT THE UN IN NEW YORK LAST WEEK. UNDER

FURTHER POLITE BUT INSISTENT QUESTIONING, VAN DER STOEL SAID THE POINT OF MAKING THESE DEMARCHES WAS FOR THEM TO HAVE SOME EFFECT. IN SOME CASES A CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSION MIGHT HAVE BEST RESULT; IN OTHERS EVEN SILENCE MIGHT BE BEST TACTIC. TO THE KOREAN AND INDONESIAN EXAMPLES, VAN DER STOEL ADDED MENTION, OF DUTCH EFFORTS TO SECURE IMPLEMENTATION OF CSCE PROVISIONS, SAYING HE HAD RAISED THE AMALRIK CASE WITH GROMYKO. PRESSED WHAT WERE LIMITS TO INVOLVEMENT IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, VAN DER STOEL CITED CASE OF PORTUGAL, WHICH AS EUROPEAN COUNTRY WAS "IN OUR REGION", AND WHERE THERE HAD BEEN CASE OF APPARENT ATTEMPT OF GOVERNMENT BY MINORITY.

4. AS TO SPAIN, MOMENT HAD COME TO ADD DEEDS TO WORDS AND BRING TO BEAR PRESSURE. THOUGH RHODESIAN CASE HAD SHOWN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS WERE OFTEN NOT EFFECTIVE, HE HOPED THAT ECONOMIC STEPS BY GON WOULD CONVEY CONCRETE EXPRESSION OF GON'S FEELINGS TO FRANCO SPAIN. THUS HE EXPECTED BILATERAL TALKS ON TRADE AGREEMENT TO BE ON BACK BURNER.

5. NETHERLANDS WOULD ACTIVELY SEEK TO PURSUE THIS POLICY WITHIN EC-9 CONTEXT AND HOPED OTHER EC-9 COUNTRIES WOULD ALSO TAKE MEASURES AGAINST SPAIN. HE DISCLOSED HE HAD DISCUSSED MATTER WITH SOME EC-9 FONMINS IN NEW YORK AND NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT SEVERAL COUNTRIES HAD FOLLOWED WHAT HE CALLED NETHERLANDS EXAMPLES IN RECALLING THEIR AMBASSADORS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, VAN DER STOEL SAID THAT SPANISH ASSOCIATION WITH NATO WAS WHOLLY OUT OF QUESTION.

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6. ASKED ABOUT HIS IMPRESSIONS OF US ATTITUDE, VAN DER STOEL CONFINED HIMSELF TO CITING EXAMPLE OF GREECE WHEN, HE FELT, US HAD LEARNED HARD LESSON AS RESULT OF ITS POLICY OF STICKING WITH REPRESSIVE REGIME BECAUSE OF SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS.

7. IN CLOSING, VAN DER STOEL SAID THAT PAST SUMMER, WHEN VACATIONING IN GREECE, HE HAD OCCASION TO REVIEW EVENTS THERE WITH

PRESENT LEADERS. HE HAD BEEN STRUCK ABOVE ALL BY DEGREE TO WHICH THEY SAID THEY HAD BEEN ENCOURAGED DURING THE PERIOD WHEN THEY WERE OUT OF POWER BY EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY. LESSON, ACCORDING TO VAN DER STOEL, WAS THAT EXPRESSIONS OF GON SUPPORT, EVEN THOUGH OF LITTLE PRACTICAL EFFECT, WERE NEVERTHELESS WELL WORTH MAKING.

8. COMMENT: VAN DER STOEL, WHO HAS NEVER HAD MUCH CHARISMA, DID NOT LET HIS EVIDENTLY DEEPLY FELT FEELINGS ABOUT THE SPANISH EXECUTIONS ALTER HIS USUAL PHLEGMATIC AND THOUGHTFUL APPROACH. IT IS CLEAR HE IS AWARE OF THE PRACTICAL LIMITS OF ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON SPAIN, HAVING JUST SEEN THE FAILURE OF SUCH POLITICAL PRESSURE AS THE NETHERLANDS WAS ABLE TO MUSTER. HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE GREEK POLITICAL SITUATION, HOWEVER, HAS LEFT HIM WITH A STRONG CONVICTION THAT HIS POLITICAL STAND OF OPEN AND VOCAL OPPOSITION TO THE FRANCO REGIME IS NOT ONLY RIGHT BUT WILL IN THE END BEAR POLITICAL FRUIT.  
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